

KANSAS STATE NEWS.

The annual meeting of the State Temperance union opened at Topeka on the 29th with a large attendance.

Lindsborg is happy because the Union Pacific road has put a passenger train on the branch that passes that town.

A man settled in Reno county ten years ago whose sole capital consisted of 10 cents and three old mares. Now he owns a farm of 440 acres, free of debt, with a house on it costing \$1,300, 5,000 bushels of grain, a lot of stock, farming machinery, etc. Kansas is good enough for him.

George Bannister and another young man named Mitchell, of Hays City, went hunting the other afternoon. Mitchell was sitting in the front seat of the wagon and Bannister was on the back seat loading his gun when it went off, shooting Mitchell in the hip, inflicting a serious and perhaps fatal wound.

In the case against Fred Bassett, son of Judge Bassett, of Lawrence, charged with shooting two university students who were crossing his father's yard, the jury brought in a verdict of guilty of assault with a deadly weapon under circumstances that would have constituted manslaughter in the fourth degree had death resulted.

It is given out that a new veteran organization to be known as "The Boys in Blue" is to be started in Kansas. It is to be entirely non-political. Instead of commander-in-chief the first officer in the new order will be "general." Major-generals and brigadier-generals will follow next in command and the subdivisions will be companies instead of posts.

Gov. Smith, of the soldiers' home, has formally preferred charges against Surgeon J. L. Weber, of the home, and the board of managers will make careful investigation into the matter. The nature of the charges has not been made public, but it has been known for some time that strained relations existed between the governor and some members of his staff.

The state canvassing board adopted a resolution declaring that it was beyond its province to go behind the returns as certified to them. This action was taken because of the evident mistake that had been made by the clerks of Sedgwick and Wilson counties in having reported the vote intended for Campbell for presidential elector for Campbell, thus defeating one of the Weaver electors and electing a Harrison elector.

As William Miller was returning to his home, about four miles southeast of Lawrence, the other night he was held up and probably murdered. He was driving home alone on a wagon loaded with coal, and when about two miles out a couple of strangers climbed in the wagon, and asked to ride. When they had gone a short distance one of them struck Miller with a railroad coupling pin, crushing his skull. He was robbed of about \$25 and his watch and left lying alongside the road, where he was found by friends.

The mystery surrounding the murder of Paul Swetlick, a wealthy cattleman, on October 23, near Holton, is possibly about to be cleared up. A reward of \$2,000 was offered for the apprehension of the guilty party. Suspicion pointed to relatives of Mr. Swetlick, who, in case of his death, would come in possession of his vast wealth. Mrs. Anna Stach, Swetlick's sister, is now accused of being the originator of the assassination and Mrs. Stach, her son, Joseph, and a hired man named Frank Nowalk, have been arrested upon the charge.

Bert Brown, one of the Conway Springs burglars convicted a few days ago and sentenced to a term in the state penitentiary, displayed astonishing boldness while en route to prison. On the road to Leavenworth, although handcuffed, he robbed a passenger of \$14. Brown noticed a man on a seat in front of him wrap some money up in a handkerchief. He changed his seat and sitting down beside the man engaged him in conversation and succeeded in getting the handkerchief containing the money. On being accused of the theft Brown laughingly admitted it and said he wanted to turn one more trick before being locked up.

A comparative report of the industries of Wichita, as given out by the census office is: For 1880—Number of establishments reported, 48; capital invested, \$359,523; number of hands employed, 178; wages paid, \$73,734; value of materials used, \$655,785; value of product, \$821,092; population, 4,911; assessed valuation, \$622,607; municipal debt, \$1,000. For 1890—Number of industries reported, 42; number of establishments reported, 107; capital, \$2,830,029; hands employed, 1,839; wages paid, \$764,034; cost of materials used, \$3,260,476; miscellaneous expenses, \$271,021; value of product, \$4,719,336; population, 23,853; assessed valuation, \$9,537,024; municipal debt, \$549,234.

Several weeks ago the little daughter of Theodore E. Wheeler, a Kansas City, Kan., coal dealer, died, since which time the father had been unusually melancholy, continually praying that he might be taken away also. His wife frequently remonstrated with him and he promised to omit that clause of his usual family prayer. The other night, however, he knelt by his bed and earnestly prayed that he might be taken to his child. He retired and during the night his wife heard him struggling. She immediately gave the alarm, but in a few minutes Wheeler was dead. He was about 29 years old and physically a large, healthy man. He left a wife and babe.

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